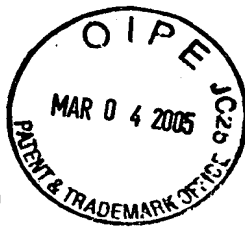


DOCKET NO: 216644US0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
MASAYASU OGUSHI, ET AL. : EXAMINER: AUGHENBAGH, W.  
SERIAL NO: 09/995,599 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1772  
FILED: NOVEMBER 29, 2001 : RCE FILED: NOVEMBER 25, 2004  
FOR: ENDOTRACHEAL TUBE :

AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated December 14, 2004, please amend the application identified above as follows.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.